Funds generated by PSU's under M/o Civil Aviation

2429. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various PSUs under the Ministry have generated huge funds through various measures;

(b) whether these funds are lying unutilised because of lack of readiness to spend;

(c) if so, the details of funds generated during the last three years; and

(d) what are Government's plans to utilise these funds during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) have been generating funds through operations and reinvestment of surplus funds.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) AAI generated net resources of Rs. 341.04, 366.14 and 346.67 (prov.) crores during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 respectively. PHHL generated Rs. 38.63, 53.53 and 24.61 crores during the same periods respectively.

(d) Annual Plan outlay of AAI for the year 2001-2002 on various airport development projects / schemes is Rs. 573.71 crores which includes a budgetary support of Rs. 50.84 crores from the Government. The approved plan outlay of PHHL for the year 2001-2002 is Rs. 127 crores and, in addition, the company had made a provision of Rs. 200 crores in the budget towards settlements of Government of India dues relating to purchase of Westland and Dauphin helicopters.

Night landing facilities at Airports in North-Eastern region

2430. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds released for development of Airports in the North Eastern region during the Ninth Five Year Plan, airport-wise;

(b) whether Government have any plan to expand the existing North-Eastern region's airports for providing night landing facilities; and

(c) if so, by when action will be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The amount of funds released for development of airports in the North Eastern region (in crores of rupees) in the Ninth Five Year Plan i.e. during 1997-2001 for each airport are as follows: 18.39 for Agartala, 0.27 for Aizawl, 0.04 for Barapani, 1.38 for Dibrugarh, 3.09 for Dimapur, 37.73 for Guwahati, 26.65 for Imphal, 23.63 for Lilabari, 5.90 for Silchar and 18.84 for Tezpur.

(b) and (c) Night landing facilities are, at present, available at Dibrugarh, Imphal, Dimapur, Agartala and Guwahati airports. Night operations through Guwahati and Agartala has been approved. Night operations through Dimapur and Imphal are not possible due to terrain conditions.

Refund against lost tickets

2431. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has termed as archaic the cancellation and refund regulations of Indian Airlines since refund was allowed only if original tickets were produced and the conditions for refund appeared to be unfair trade practice in the case of Indian Airlines v/s N.N. Kini who lost his ticket in 1992;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Indian Airlines is considering a proposal to amend the rules regarding refund against a lost ticket?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Consumer Disputes Redressal, New Delhi while passing order in favour of Indian Airlines in a case of refund against lost ticket made an obsrvation that the Rule of no refund against lost ticket is archaic in today's situation when there is explosion in communication and spread of vast computer network in the country.

(c) No, Sir. The present level of automation communication and computerization of the passenger transactions in Indian Airlines is not sufficient to provide, without the possibility of misuse by unscrupulous persons intending to cause loss of revenue, spot refund in the case of lost domestic tickets.